

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 02305 070112Z
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00
HA-05 /110 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1825

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 02305

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O.11652:GDS

TAGS: PORG, SF, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: DRAFT WESTERN FIVE PRESS STATEMENT
FOR USE IF AND WHEN SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT MAKES
ANNOUNCEMENT ON REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

1. IN VIEW OF LIKELIHOOD THAT SOUTH AFRICA WILL PROCEED
SHORTLY TO ANNOUNCE REGISTRATION OF VOTERS IN NAMIBIA,
CONTACT GROUP AGREED JUNE 6 AD REFERENDUM ON A PRESS
STATEMENT TO BE ISSUED BY THE FIVE IF AND WHEN THE SOUTH
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AFRICAN'S MAKE THEIR ANNOUNCEMENT. NEEDLESS TO SAY,
THE PRECISE LANGUAGE AND NATURE OF THE SOUTH
AFRICAN STATEMENT WILL HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED BEFORE
ISSUING OUR RESPONSE; HOWEVER, GROUP BELIEVES THAT THE
FOLLOWING ADVANCE PREPARATION WILL FACILITATE A RAPID
RESPONSE BY THE FIVE.

2. FOLLOWING IS DRAFT WESTERN FIVE PRESS STATEMENT, AGREED TO BY THE CONTACT GROUP AD REFERENDUM JUNE 6: BEGIN TEXT.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT HAS TODAY (JUNE) ANNOUNCED ...(INSERT ANNOUNCED ACTION, I.E., ESTABLISHMENT OF MACHINERY FOR THE REGISTRATION OF VOTERS IN NAMIBIA; OR THE COMMENCEMENT OF REGISTRATION OF VOTERS). IN ANY POLITICAL PROCESS THE PROCEDURE BY WHICH VOTERS ARE REGISTERED IS A CRUCIAL AND SENSITIVE ONE. THIS IS ALL THE MORE TRUE IN AN AREA OF INTERNATIONAL CONTENTION.

THE PROPOSAL WHICH OUR GOVERNMENTS HAVE PUT FORWARD FOR A SETTLEMENT IN NAMIBIA, STATES SPECIFICALLY THAT "THE UNITED NATIONS SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE WILL HAVE TO SATISFY HIMSELF AT EACH STAGE AS TO THE FAIRNESS AND APPROPRIATENESS OF ALL MEASURES AFFECTING THE POLITICAL PROCESS AT ALL LEVELS OF ADMINISTRATION BEFORE SUCH MEASURES TAKE EFFECT". IN ADDITION, THE PROPOSAL SPECIFICALLY STATES THAT THE PROPER REGISTRATION OF VOTERS WILL "HAVE TO BE CONDUCTED TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE WE HAVE INFORMED THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT THAT THEIR PROPOSED ACTION WILL IN OUR VIEW NOT BE VALID IF CARRIED OUT UNILATERALLY. A PROCESS OF REGISTRATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROPOSAL WILL BE REQUIRED. SOUTH AFRICA ACCEPTED OUR PROPOSAL ON APRIL 25. CONFIDENTIAL

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CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE TOWARDS GENERAL AGREEMENT ON OUR PROPOSAL PRIOR TO SOUTH AFRICA'S ATTACK ON ANGOLA ON MAY 4. THAT ACTION HAS INEVITABLY CAUSED A DELAY. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT THE PROPOSAL WHICH WE HAVE PUT FORWARD REPRESENTS THE BEST AVAILABLE SOLUTION TO THE NAMIBIAN QUESTION. OUR FIVE GOVERNMENTS ARE CONTINUING THEIR EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE AN INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTABLE SETTLEMENT IN NAMIBIA. WE LOOK FORWARD TO THE EARLY RESUMPTION OF OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH SWAPO AIMED AT ACHIEVING ACCEPTANCE OF OUR PROPOSAL. IN THE MEANTIME, WE URGE THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT, AS WE HAVE URGED SWAPO, TO REFRAIN FROM ACTIONS WHICH WILL FURTHER COMPLICATE OUR EFFORTS. END TEXT. YOUNG

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 07 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
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